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: Group Art Unit: 1754

: Examiner: STEVEN J. BOS

: Response to Paper No. 6

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

JAMES S. VARTULI et al.

Serial No. 09/681,405

Filed: March 30, 2001

For: INORGANIC ACICULAR BODIES AND

METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

HONORABLE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claim's:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, and 31 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 3-6, 30, and 32 to read as follows:

3. (Amended) The acicular body according to claims 32 having a cross-sectional dimension less than about 20 µm.